manner in which the aid/grant/loan is supposed to be distributed ;

(c) the number of pavement dwellers in Tamil Nadu as on date ; and

(d) the total numbers of pavement dwellers in Madras city alone as on date?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI (MOHSINA KIDWAI) : (a) and (b) During 1988-89, Central Govt. had sanctioned an amount of Rs. 125.60 lakhs as grants-in-aid to the Govt. of Tamil Nadu for construction of dwelling units for 3140 identified pavement dwellers households on plots in two locations in Madras identified by the Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board. This scheme provided for a grant of Rs. 4000 per household for a core structure which will be dovetailed with loans to be arranged from HUDCO or nationalised banks. The ceiling cost of construction of the dwelling units will be Rs. 15,000. The dwelling units are to be constructed on a self-help basis by the individual families with provision for incremental housing. Infrastructural facilities will be provided by the State Government.

In addition, Central Government had also sanctioned an amount of Rs. 8 lakhs as grant-in-aid to the Govt. of Tamil Nadu during 1988-89 for construction in Madras four night shelters each to accommodate 100 pavement dwellers. The implementing agency of the schemes is the Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board which will draw the amount of Central grant from the State Govt.

(c) and (d) As per 1981 Census, the number of houseless population in Tamil Nadu is 57,461 and in Madras (urban agglomeration) is 8140.

Indian workers in Kuwait

1371. SHRI T. R. BALU :
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is fact that 1200 Indian workers employed in Kuwait went on strike for 11 weeks, if so, what was the dispute which made them resort to strike ;

(b) what steps were taken by Indian Embassy to settle the dispute and how far they succeeded ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Indian Embassy officials ignored the issue and did not take any positive steps to get the matter resolved ;

(d) whether Government have constituted any independent committee outside External Affairs Ministry to probe the conduct of our officials at Kuwait, if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government propose to immediately recall the whole staff of Indian Embassy in Kuwait pending the enquiry into their conduct ; and

(f) if the answers to parts (d) and (e) above be in negative, what steps are being taken by Government to improve the functioning of Indian Embassy at Kuwait?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHAKRISHAN MALAVIYA) : (a) The Indian Embassy, Kuwait has intimated that over 950 Indian workers employed on a housing project in the AL-QUARAN area of Kuwait stopped work from 21-1-89 onwards on account of non-payment of their wages.

(b) and (c) Through the effectiv intervention of the Indian Embassy

a crisis that could have led to a law and order situation was averted and a compromise between the workers and the management was arrived at. The Embassy had taken up the case with Kuwaiti authorities at the highest level. This was followed up by personal visits by officers of the Mission to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour. Due to the efforts of the officials of the Mission, the foreign employer agreed to make an ad-hoc payment of KD 94,000 towards wages and to pay for the passage back to India for all workers.

(d) to (f) Do not arise.

Telecast of State Government functions by Madras Doordarshan Kendra

1372. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY :
SHRI T.R. BALU :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether any oral or written instructions have been issued by officials of Delhi Doordarshan to officials of Doordarshan Madras not to telecast State Government functions as far as possible and if coverage is unavoidable to show only Chief Minister and that too in long shots;

(b) whether any memorandum/complaint has been received from State Government in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.K. TEWARY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Government have received a letter from Shri M. Karunanidhi, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamilnadu alleging biased attitude of the News Wing of Doordarshan Kendra, Madras. The allegation has not been foundcorrect.

Agreement between NDMC and Ministry of External Affairs on Akbar Bhawan

1373. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any agreement was signed by New Delhi Municipal Committee and Ministry of External Affairs with regard to Akbar Bhawan; and

(b) if so, what are the terms of the agreement ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI, MOHSINA KIDWAI) : (a) No; Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Labour Courts and Industrial Tribunals in the Country

1374. SHRI T.R. BALU : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question 2565 given in the Rajya Sahba on the 17th March, 1989 and to state ;

(a) the total number of industrial disputes pending in each State during the last three years : yearwise;

(b) the total number of Labour Courts/Industrial Tribunals in each State during the lst three years, year-wise figures;

(c) what is the number among these disputes which are more than three years, five years, ten years old; and

(d) what steps are being taken to dispose of long pending disputes ?